

REMARKS

The present response cancels claims 21-28 and 37 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter therein or acquiescence to the position taken in the Office Action. In addition, claims 38-48 are added in conformity with the following remarks. Claims 29-36 and 38-48 are pending in the captioned case. Further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application are respectfully requested.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 21-37 were rejected under the doctrine of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,266,008. To expedite prosecution, a terminal disclaimer is included herewith in a separate paper to obviate this rejection in its entirety.

Section 102/103 Rejection

Claims 21-28 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) as being anticipated and/or unpatentable over a combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,223,844 to Mansell et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,491,486 to Welles, II. To expedite prosecution, the rejected claims 21-28 and 37 have been canceled rendering rejection thereto moot.

CONCLUSION

The present amendment and response is believed to be a complete response to the issues raised in the Office Action mailed November 16, 2005. The only rejection of claims 29-36 was the double patenting rejection over U.S. Patent No. 6,266,008. In view of the terminal disclaimer filed herewith, Applicants assert that claims 29-36 and added dependent claims 38-48 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, comments or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference.

Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for a two month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for responding to the Office Action mailed November 16, 2005, such extension allowing the undersigned until April 16, 2006 to respond.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the requires fees or credit any overpayment to Daffer McDaniel, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-3268/5863-00301.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: March 29, 2006